

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
an electrical lead comprising a lead body and an electrical conductor; and  
an electrode coupled to the electrical conductor, wherein the electrode includes a coating on at least a portion of a surface of the electrode, the coating including three or more layers, with a first layer adjacent to and in contact with the surface of the electrode including an insulative polymeric base material ~~and~~, a second layer disposed over and in contact with the first layer ~~and not adjacent to the surface of the electrode~~, the second layer including a polymer matrix material and at least one a first pharmacological agent, and a third layer disposed over the second layer, wherein the third layer ~~includes~~ consists of at least one a second pharmacological agent.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the electrode includes a helical tip.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first pharmacological agent comprises an anti-arrhythmic agent, an angiogenic growth factor, an anti-inflammatory agent, an antiproliferative agent, or a combination thereof.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone, clobetasol, beclomethasone, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[5]]~~1, wherein ~~the at least one second~~ pharmacological agent comprises an anti-arrhythmic agent, an angiogenic growth factor, an anti-inflammatory agent, an antiproliferative agent, or a combination thereof.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone, clobetasol, beclomethasone, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[5]]1, wherein the polymeric base coat is ethylene vinyl alcohol.
9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a fourth layer~~above~~ disposed over and in contact with the second layer, wherein the fourth layer includes a porous polymeric barrier having a porosity sufficient to regulate a release of the first pharmacological agent from the second layer.
- 10-14. (Cancelled)
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first layer is adapted to functionally increase an impedance of the electrode.
16. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
an electrical pulse generator;  
an electrical lead releasably coupled to electrical pulse generator, wherein the electrical lead includes a lead body and an electrical conductor; and  
an electrode coupled to the electrical conductor, wherein an outer surface of the electrode is coated on at least a portion of a surface of the electrode, the coating including three or more discrete layers comprising a first layer including an insulative polymeric base material adjacent to and in contact with the outer surface of the electrode~~and~~, a second layer disposed over and in contact with the first layer ~~and not adjacent to the surface of the electrode~~, the second layer including a polymer matrix material and a first-at least one pharmacological agent, and a third layer disposed over the second layer, wherein the third layer ~~comprises~~ consists of a second at least one pharmacological agent.
17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the electrode includes a helical tip.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the first pharmacological agent comprises an antiarrhythmic agent, an angiogenic growth factor, an anti-inflammatory agent, an antiproliferative agent, or a combination thereof.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone, clobetasol, beclomethasone, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the second pharmacological agent comprises an anti-arrhythmic agent, an angiogenic growth factor, an anti-inflammatory agent, an anti-proliferative agent, or a combination thereof.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone, clobetasol, beclomethasone, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[21]]~~16, wherein the polymeric base coat is ethylene vinyl alcohol.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, further comprising a fourth layer ~~positioned~~ disposed between the second layer and the third layer in contact with the second layer, wherein the fourth layer comprises a porous polymeric barrier having a porosity sufficient to regulate a release of the first pharmacological agent from the second layer.

26-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
an electrical lead comprising a lead body and an electrical conductor; and

an electrode coupled to the electrical conductor, wherein the electrode includes a coating on at least a portion of a surface of the electrode, the coating including three or more layers, with an inner layer including a first pharmacological agent in a polymer matrix for regulated, chronic release of the first pharmacological agent and an outer layer ~~including only~~ consisting of a second pharmaceutical agent such that the second pharmaceutical agent of the outer layer is exposed to tissue upon implant of the electrode, and a middle layer disposed between the inner layer and the outer layer, wherein the middle layer includes a porous polymer barrier and is adjacent to and in contact with the inner layer and not adjacent to the surface of the electrode.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the electrode includes a helix.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, further including a fourth layer directly adjacent a surface of the electrode comprising a polymer primer layer, with the inner layer adjacent the polymer primer layer.

33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the first pharmaceutical agent in the polymer matrix includes an anti-inflammatory drug.

34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the first pharmacological agent in the polymer matrix includes an anti-proliferative drug.

35. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

coating at least a portion of a surface of an electrode with a first layer, wherein the first layer comprises a polymeric base coat;

coating the first layer of the electrode with a second layer, wherein the second layer comprises a polymer and at least one pharmacological agent, and at least partially coats the first layer and not the surface of the electrode; and

coating the second layer with a third layer, wherein the third layer ~~comprises~~ consists of at least one pharmacological agent.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the pharmacological agent comprises an anti-arrhythmic agent, an angiogenic growth factor, an anti-inflammatory agent, an antiproliferative agent, or a combination thereof.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone, clobetasol, beclomethasone, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

38. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the polymeric base coat is ethylene vinyl alcohol.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, further comprising a fourth layer positioned between the second and third layer, wherein the fourth layer comprises a porous barrier.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the second layer comprises a matrix including a polymer and at least one pharmacological agent and the third layer regulates the release of the pharmacological agent from the matrix.

41- 43. (Cancelled)

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the coating is applied by contacting an exterior surface of the electrode with a composition comprising at least one polymer and at least one pharmacological agent.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the contacting includes spraying.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first layer is between 1 and 100 microns thick.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the amount of the at least one pharmacological agent present in the second layer is up to 60% by weight of the second layer.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the first layer is between 1 and 100 microns thick.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the amount of the at least one pharmacological agent present in the second layer is up to 60% by weight of the second layer.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the amount of the at least one pharmacological agent present in the inner layer is up to 60% by weight of the inner layer.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the first layer is between 1 and 100 microns thick.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the amount of the at least one pharmacological agent present in the second layer is up to 60% by weight of the second layer.